

Spring 1-15-1999

ENG 1092C-096: Composition and Literature

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Tarter, Michele, "ENG 1092C-096: Composition and Literature" (1999). *Spring 1999*. 54.
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English 1092C: Composition and Literature (Honors)
Professor Michele Tarter
Office: CH 316B Phone: 581-6974 E-mail: cfmlt@eiu.edu
Office Hours: T/Th 12:30-2 and by appointment
Spring 1999



Introduction:

This Honors course in Composition and Literature is designed to help you improve your skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. We will divide our semester's study among the major genres of fiction, drama, and poetry, and you will be required to write about these materials in both essay and examination format. This, in turn, will prepare you for the kinds of writing you will be required to do here at Eastern Illinois University.

Required Texts and Materials:

Ann Charters, ed., The Story and Its Writer (4th edition)
Michael Meyer, Poetry: An Introduction
Kelley Griffith, Writing Essays about Literature
Fulwiler, Blair Handbook (2nd edition)
Merriam New World Dictionary
Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God
Writing Journal
Portfolio Folder

Course Responsibilities:

Attendance: Very, very important, due to the emphasis on the process of writing and rewriting, workshoping and editing. If you have more than three unexcused absences, it will seriously affect your final grade: your grade will be lowered a half-grade for each additional class missed. That is, should you have a final grade of a B for the course and you miss a fourth class, your grade would drop to a B-. Please feel free to discuss this policy with me at any time during the semester, should you have questions about your attendance record. I will be checking attendance every day. PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE TO CLASS.

Reading: On the days scheduled, you are to read the assigned texts and be ready to discuss them in class. I will be giving unannounced quizzes on the assignments throughout the semester.

Journal: You are required to keep a reading journal and to write in it at least thirty minutes two times a week, for a total of 40 to 60 pages over the semester. Specifically, you should respond to your reading assignments in your journals, which will most likely lead to some wonderful essay ideas to write about. I will also suggest topics that you might explore in your weekly

journal writing assignments, but you are always free to write about whatever interests you in the literature. If there are confidential journal entries which you do not want me to read, please write "personal" at the top of these pages. PLEASE BRING YOUR JOURNAL TO EVERY CLASS. We will have many days in which we write in them. Also bring your journals to conferences, so that we may discuss the evolution of them. These will be due at the end of the semester.

Worksheets: During the semester, I will give you several ungraded writing assignments which are to be completed in class. These will also help you to formulate ideas and topics for your essays. It is important that you complete these, and there will be occasions in which you will be asked to take them home and complete them there. All of these must be included in your final Portfolio.

Workshops: On the days designated on the syllabus, you will be asked to workshop drafts of essays prepared by you and your classmates. We will carefully review workshopping techniques in the beginning of the semester. You are expected to be a committed group member: ready with your own draft and ready to comment on others' writing at every group meeting. To do this, you have to be there, so attendance is absolutely required on group days. Being unprepared for groups will affect your final grade. Being absent on group days will affect it dramatically.

Essays. You will be required to write three essays (3-5 double-spaced typed pages in length) throughout the semester. Each essay will undergo several drafts and will be read by others and critiqued, edited repeatedly, and finally turned in on the dates outlined on the syllabus.

Essay Examination. This will be at the end of the semester -- the culmination of your study, analysis, and writing about literature.

Portfolio: At the end of the semester, you are to turn in your final portfolio which will include all writing assignments completed throughout the course: journals, worksheets, drafts and essays, and workshop response sheets. I have scheduled private conferences in the semester, during which we will discuss your portfolio in process, as well as your class experience. At the end of the semester, you may pick up your portfolio in my office.

A Note about Lateness: Unless you have made prior arrangements with me, any late work will receive a failing grade. You must, however, turn in all essays to be considered for a passing grade.

Your final grade will be based on the following percentages:

Reading Journal (and quiz grades)	10%
Three Essays (20% each):	60%
Class Presentation:	10%
Essay Examination:	20%
Total:	<u>100%</u>

Plagiarism:

The English Department's statement on plagiarism:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism -- "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work" (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) -- has the right and the responsibility to impose the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Information for Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English 1092C: Composition and Literature (Honors)
Professor Michele Tarter
Fall 1999

Syllabus

Please note: These dates/assignments are subject to change. I often announce changes at the end of class, due to the process and progress of our discussions. Therefore, should you miss a class, you should have a peer's phone number, to check in and see where we left off in discussion and where we are headed in the next class.

Phone number exchange: _____

Jan. 14: Introduction to class

19: Diagnostic In-Class Writing

21: Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown"
Edgar Allan Poe, "The Cask of Amontillado"
Charters, "Writing about Short Stories"

26: Herman Melville, "Bartleby the Scrivener"
Ursula Leguin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas"
Charters, "The Elements of Fiction"

28: No Class
Sherwood Anderson, "A Death in the Woods"
Willa Cather, "Paul's Case"
Griffith, Chapter 9

Feb. 2: Video: "Wordshop"

4: Workshopping: Draft #1 is due

Feb. 9: Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God
Draft #2 is due

11: Conferences

16: Conferences

18: Hurston, continued
Final Draft of Paper #1 is due.

23: Hurston, concluded

25: Workshopping: Draft #1 is due.

Mar. 2: Hamlet, Act I
Draft #2 is due.

4: Hamlet, Acts II-III

9: Hamlet, Acts IV-V

11: Hamlet, concluded
Final Draft of Paper #2 is due.

***** spring break *****

23: Film: "Hamlet"

25: Film, continued
Griffith, Chapter 5

30: Workshopping: Draft #1 is due.

Apr. 1: Poetry Unit Introduction
Griffith, Chapter 6
Draft #2 is due.

6: Poetry

8: Poetry

13: Poetry
Final Draft of Paper #3 is due.

15: Poetry

20: Poetry

22: Poetry

27: Essay Examination Review
Griffith, Chapter 13

29: Essay Examination Review
Portfolios due, including Reading Journals